



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND

Live the life you want.

2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION

**#NFB21
ANYWHERE & EVERYWHERE**

JULY 6 to JULY 10

WELCOME TO THE
81st ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND

Mark A. Riccobono, President
National Federation of the Blind
200 East Wells Street *at Jernigan Place*
Baltimore, Maryland 21230

John Berggren, Chairman
Convention Organization and Activities

WELCOME!

Welcome to the world's largest gathering of the organized blind, the National Federation of the Blind's annual convention, where expectations are raised and lives literally transformed. Our eighty-first convention is once again being held virtually, just as it was last summer. If there was one thing we learned during our first online convention, it is that a global pandemic can do little to dampen the spirit of the Federation. As you read through the agenda, it is clear there is no shortage of activity and excitement throughout our organization. Whether you are learning about the National Federation of the Blind for the first time or are a longtime member curious about the latest accessible technology, you will find something to meet your needs at this year's convention. Take every opportunity to explore, make new friends, and live the life you want at #NFB21.

ROOKIE ROUNDUP



All convention attendees are cordially invited to attend a welcoming Zoom meeting the week before convention starts. President Riccobono and Board of Directors Chairperson Pam Allen will be on hand to preview convention activities and provide a historical perspective of the organization and how it grew into the leading voice in the blindness field. If you are new to the NFB, come learn a little more about our dynamic organization and the extended family that could become your own. Join us Tuesday, June 29, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. EDT (Zoom meeting ID [996 0507 0015](https://nfb.org/join/99605070015)). We cannot wait to welcome you! In anticipation, check out our First Timer's Guide at <https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/first-timers-guide>.

INCLUSIVITY, DIVERSITY, AND CODE OF CONDUCT

We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and healthy environment for everyone. Thank you for cultivating an atmosphere of mutual respect in which participants from diverse backgrounds can learn, network, and share with each other. We are committed to diversity, equity, and the free expression of ideas. These principles have been outlined in our Code of Conduct found at <https://nfb.org/codeofconduct>.

We recognize a shared responsibility to create and uphold that atmosphere for the benefit of all. Prohibited behaviors include harassment, sexual misconduct, and inappropriate use of the NFB virtual convention platform. Prohibited behavior or misuse of the platform will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the convention and/or other consequences. For assistance or to report an incident at the convention, please call 410-659-9314, extension 2475, or email code@nfb.org. Formal reports can be submitted at <https://www.nfb.org/about-us/history-and-governance/code-conduct/code-conduct-complaint-report-form>. All formal reports will be fully investigated according to the steps in our Code of Conduct. For support or guidance, connect with our survivor-led task force at survivors@nfb.org or extension 2238 or during the convention hours listed in this agenda. Thank you for your commitment to the safety and support of the blind community.

REGISTRATION

Convention registration remains open at <https://nfb.org/registration>. All attendees are strongly encouraged to register. Though the deadline for registrants to be eligible for convention voting has passed, there are still several benefits to registering. You will receive the latest updates regarding convention activities and get helpful tips for connecting to and navigating sessions. You will also be eligible for door prizes throughout the board meeting, general sessions, and banquet. Those without internet access should reach out to their local chapter or affiliate for assistance.

EXHIBIT HALL

The Exhibit Hall at the national convention is always an exciting space to check out the latest technology and many other products and services of interest to the blind community. In a virtual environment, the exhibit hall experience will be different than it is in person, but there are many ways to connect, ask questions, and learn something new.

All attendees are encouraged to visit <https://crowd.cc/nfb21> (after June 25) where you will find many familiar and some new exhibitors. View their profiles at any time. Interact during the exhibit hall hours of operation. A list of exhibitors is available on our convention webpage, <https://nfb.org/convention>.

Exhibit Hall hours of operation are:

Tuesday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

INDEPENDENCE MARKET

As with the Exhibit Hall, you cannot visit the NFB Independence Market in person. However, the Market will continue to accept phone orders during convention and has extended hours to reflect our multiple-time-zone convention schedule this year.

Independence Market hours of operation are:

Tuesday	9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Friday	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Saturday	Closed

PRESIDENTIAL SUITE

For a second year, the Presidential Suite will be in a Zoom room, accessed by connecting to <https://zoom.us/j/2235173348>. You will be able to leave a message with the host for Mark Riccobono, the elected President of the National Federation of the Blind. We will also have some limited opportunities for individuals or groups to schedule appointments to speak with him. Let the host know you would like to schedule a meeting and leave your contact information so we can reach you with the appointment time.

Also, come mingle with other members in the Presidential Suite. A host will be available to greet visitors, virtual meeting rooms will be available for Federation members to talk to one other, and Federation leaders will be available to answer questions and to make connections within the resource network of the movement. The host will place you in a room when you arrive in the suite. (Sorry, no popcorn or M&Ms provided.)

Presidential Suite hours are:

Tuesday	9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Friday	9:00 to 10:45 a.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

SURVIVOR SAFE SPACE

As a part of our ongoing efforts to provide safety, support, and inclusion within the National Federation of the Blind, the Survivor Task Force is providing a safe space for survivors and individuals who have been impacted or harmed by sexual misconduct and other forms of abuse within the NFB and affiliated programs/events. We welcome you to drop in for confidential peer support, to discuss questions/concerns about ongoing safety and support measures within the NFB, and to access resources for additional support. Breakout rooms will be available for one-on-one confidential support. Visit the safe space via Zoom meeting ID [202 313 2945](#) Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. and on Saturday between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.

If you are not able to participate in the survivors' safe space and need additional support or have further questions during the convention, you may email survivors@nfb.org or call 410-659-9314, extension 2238. A member of the Survivor Task Force will respond to calls within four hours of the time of your message between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. during the week of convention.

SPECIAL ATTENTION ITEMS

- The national convention agenda has been assembled using eastern daylight time (EDT). Please be mindful to convert published times to your appropriate time zone.
- The convention host affiliate, the NFB of Maryland, will host a Convention Breakfast Club from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. each morning during convention. The Breakfast Club hosts will review the day's agenda and provide access phone numbers and codes for those who need them. Participants be prepared with a writing tool to take down times and access information for the events they plan to attend. The Breakfast Club can be accessed via phone each day by dialing 339-209-4083.
- The NFB's 2021 National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC) Conference, held each year in conjunction with the National Federation of the Blind's National Convention, will also be convened virtually. For more information about this year's NOPBC conference, titled "Empowering Our Children: Maximizing Skills, Opportunities, and Dreams," email Carlton Walker at president@nopbc.org.

PRE-CONVENTION EVENTS



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021

6:00 - 7:30 PM—FEASTING TOGETHER: COOKING AND COCKTAILS

Zoom meeting ID: [921 0693 8384](#)

Prepare for the banquet. Federationists Regina Mitchell and Hoby Wedler will share a couple of recipes and give tips to having a successful banquet dinner.



MONDAY, JULY 5, 2021

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM—CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN
REHABILITATION AND EDUCATION FOR THE BLIND—TWENTIETH
ANNUAL REHABILITATION AND ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY
CONFERENCE

Registration (online before July 3rd at

<https://nbpcb.org/members/er.php?eid=434>): Professionals: \$50 and Students free. Sponsors: National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) and the Professional Development & Research Institute on Blindness (PDRIB) at the Louisiana Tech University.

Colin Wong and Joni Martinez, Co-Chairs

7:30 - 9:30 PM—NFB LOL COMEDY NIGHT

Zoom meeting ID: [985 9871 5785](#)

The host affiliate is hosting the first-ever LOL Comedy Night, which brings blind comedians right to the virtual stage to make us laugh out loud. Attendees who are NFB members and who registered for the 2021 convention by May 31, 2021, will be eligible to vote on their favorite comedian. Participation is free.

Ronza Othman, Coordinator

CONVENTION AGENDA



TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021

**10:00 AM - 5:00 PM—CONTEMPORARY ISSUES IN
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Registration (online before July 3rd at <https://nbpcb.org/members/er.php?eid=434>): Professionals: \$50 and Students free. Sponsors: National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) and the Professional Development & Research Institute on Blindness (PDRIB) at the Louisiana Tech University.
Colin Wong and Joni Martinez, Co-Chairs

10:00 - 11:00 AM—TARGET: AN APP FOR ALL GUESTS

Zoom meeting ID: [941 6380 7033](#)

Join Target's accessibility team for an overview of the Target app, including a description of the layout, features, ways to save money, and how to get what you need however you want it. Learn some tips and tricks to navigate a complex app with ease.

Steve Decker, Lead Accessibility Consultant, Target

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM—ORIENTATION TO THE 2021 NFB CAREER FAIR

Zoom meeting ID: [923 2958 9892](#)

This event is designed to help employers and job seekers prepare for the Career Fair. Employers will talk about their staffing needs. Job seekers will learn how to make the best pitch to employers. Both will get last-minute information and their questions answered.

Dick Davis, Chair

**11:00 AM - 12:30 PM—WHAT'S NEW WITH JAWS, FUSION, AND
ZOOMTEXT**

Zoom meeting ID: [921 2247 0842](#)

In this interactive session, we'll discuss what's new in JAWS, ZoomText, and Fusion 2021, and look ahead to 2022 releases later this year!

Eric Damery, Vice President, Software Product Management, Vispero

12:00 - 1:00 PM—TARGET: CREATING A MORE ACCESSIBLE WORKPLACE

Zoom meeting ID: [936 8308 2758](#)

Learn how Target is building a more accessible and inclusive workplace. We'll share some of the work we've done to ensure blind people can do our jobs. We're also building accessibility into our culture. Hear about how accessibility benefits Target and all our guests.

Steve Decker, Lead Accessibility Consultant, Target

12:00 - 1:00 PM—THE ACCESSIBILITY GAP

Zoom meeting ID: [947 8902 0709](#)

Over three hundred and fifty new websites are created each minute in the United States. The number of accessible websites is less than 2 percent. Come explore ways to decrease this widening internet accessibility gap.

Michael Hingson, Chief Vision Officer, AccessiBe

12:00 - 1:30 PM—B&O RAILROAD MUSEUM TOUR: MARYLAND ON THE RAILS

Zoom meeting ID: [957 8137 1847](#)

This virtual tour will examine how before 1827 Maryland became an ideal location for the B&O Railroad, and as a result, how the B&O Railroad has continued to contribute to the robust history of this state.

12:00 - 2:00 PM—BLACK LEADERS SERVING ADVANCEMENT

Zoom meeting ID: [978 5361 2032](#)

Celebrate the numerous contributions of black Federation leaders. Let's inspire youth through personal empowerment, leadership development, and mentorship. All are welcome to attend.

Shawn Callaway, Denise Avant, and Richard Payne, Moderators

12:00 - 2:00 PM—INTERSECTING DISABILITIES

Zoom meeting ID: [996 1016 6214](#)

Come learn about the lived experiences of members who have multiple disabilities.

Bobbi Pompey and Anahit LaBarre, Co-Facilitators

12:00 - 3:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

12:30 - 2:00 PM—BLIND MUSLIMS GROUP SEMINAR

Zoom meeting ID: [946 9477 4339](#)

Diverse in culture, united in faith: finding our space in the blindness movement. Join us to learn about our group and our involvement in the NFB. Participate in a discussion on intersection between faith and blindness, access, inclusion, diversity, identity, and advocacy.

Tasnim Ashuli, Chair

1:00 - 2:00 PM—NFB IN THE KITCHEN

Zoom meeting ID: [941 7475 9871](#)

This meeting is to gauge interest in a new Federation group that would connect blind people with the tools, techniques, and resources useful to build confidence in the kitchen and to serve as a community for cooking enthusiasts who happen to be blind. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm.

Regina Mitchell, Chair

1:00 - 2:00 PM—HUMANWARE'S ALL ABOUT BRAILLE SHOWCASE

Zoom meeting ID: [960 1231 7685](#)

Discuss all that is new and exciting with HumanWare's wide range of Braille products! Meet our new intelligent Braille displays and get an overview of all that is coming on the BrailleNote Touch Plus.

Peter Tucic, Brand Ambassador of Blindness Products

1:00 - 2:30 PM—MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [943 2183 5109](#)

Affiliate membership chairs, membership committee members, chapter presidents, and all Federationists are encouraged to join us in reflecting on the virtual year of COVID, as well as finding new and creative ways to build our membership. Sharing best practices across the Federation will take our chapters, affiliates, and our national organization to the next level.

Kathryn Webster and Tarik Williams, Co-Chairs

1:00 - 4:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GUIDE DOG USERS (NAGDU) SEMINAR

Zoom meeting ID: [975 2442 8051](#)

Celebrating the work of puppy raisers everywhere. Get updates from the various guide dog training programs and learn how you can help to improve the rights of all guide dog users.

Raul Gallegos, President

1:00 - 4:00 PM—NFB NATIONAL CAREER FAIR

Zoom meeting ID: [956 8743 3935](#)

Looking for a job? This event brings blind job seekers looking for rewarding careers together with employers who want to hire them. Job seekers must preregister at <https://nfb.org/form/career-fair-jobseeker-registration>.

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.

Dick Davis, Chair

1:00 PM - 4:45 PM—EMPOWERING OUR CHILDREN: MAXIMIZING SKILLS, OPPORTUNITIES, AND DREAMS

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Sponsored by the NFB's National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC) division. For more details, visit <https://nopbc.org>.

Carlton Cook Walker, President

1:00 - 2:00 PM—NOPBC General Session

2:00 - 2:45 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session I
AccessiByte—Touch Typing, Flash Cards, Games... Fun for All!

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Reading to Learn the Code: the Natural Order of Contractions

Zoom meeting ID: [960 6216 1931](#)

What Is Structured Discovery?

Zoom meeting ID: [964 1123 4247](#)

Helping Kids of All Ages Explore the Kitchen

Zoom meeting ID: [947 8274 4209](#)

The Truth about Perfection: Confessions of NOPBC Board Members

Zoom meeting ID: [921 1075 4543](#)

2:45 - 4:00 PM—NOPBC General Session Reconvened

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

4:00 - 4:45 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session II

NFB-NEWSLINE®: It's Not Just for Adults Anymore

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

The Wilson Reading System: Reading Success with Dyslexia

Zoom meeting ID: [929 1338 2130](#)

Regaining Travel Confidence After a Year of Being Home

Zoom meeting ID: [969 6633 4878](#)

Teaching Boundaries, Consent, and Relationship Rules

Zoom meeting ID: [914 8042 5687](#)

The End of the IEP Road and the Transition to College

Zoom meeting ID: [946 9923 7875](#)

1:30 - 2:00 PM—SCANNING THE IDEAL OCR SOLUTION FROM VISPERO
Zoom meeting ID: [959 5210 2574](#)

Did you know the perfect scanning solution is built right into JAWS? It's called Convenient OCR. And, if you don't want anything to do with a computer, it is not problem. Ron Miller and Jeff Bazer will show you several simple scanning options with one press of a button.

Jeff Bazer, Sales Director, Vispero, and Ron Miller, Blindness Technology Product Specialist, Vispero

2:00 - 3:00 PM—PEARSON DISABILITY MENTORING PROGRAM

Zoom meeting ID: [920 7697 5702](#)

The Pearson Disability Mentoring Program has targeted the dangerous combination of low expectations and a lack of knowledge about exploring career goals that leads to underemployment of disabled college graduates. Join this session to learn how Mentoring Changes Lives.

John Tweeddale, Senior Vice President, Higher Education Services, Pearson

2:00 - 3:30 PM—PRESIDENTS AND TREASURERS SEMINAR

Zoom meeting ID: [923 1055 5033](#)

All state affiliate presidents and treasurers are asked to attend this session. We will focus on the financial expectations for a new president and treasurer, as well as the proper way to transition out of these positions. Participants can discuss state issues with facilitators Nick Lambright and Bridgid Burke.

2:00 - 3:30 PM—NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER TOUR

Zoom meeting ID: [989 1183 7672](#)

On this virtual tour, you will learn about the nation's first space flight center that now also has the largest combined organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to increasing knowledge of Earth, the solar system, and the universe via observations from space.

2:00 - 4:00 PM—GREEK AND MASONIC GROUP

Zoom meeting ID: [982 5999 5697](#)

Are you a member of a national Greek organization, the Masons, or the Eastern Star? Help build our relationships with Greek letter organizations to ensure inclusion and participation, to engage in fundraising, and to serve as a resource for the blind considering membership.

Shawn Callaway, Chair

2:00 - 4:00 PM—PRONOUNS, PRIDE, AND MORE

Zoom meeting ID: [979 3160 0458](#)

Come learn about the importance of pronouns. An educational seminar focused on addressing this and other common misconceptions.

Bobbi Pompey and Kaden Colton, Co-Facilitators

2:00 - 6:00 PM—NFB-NEWSLINE® DEMONSTRATION OPEN HOUSE

Zoom meeting ID: [941 0737 7108](#)

Have you never heard of NFB-NEWSLINE? Are you a new user? Are you a seasoned pro and want to learn more of the detailed features of the service? Stop by and learn how the information sources of NFB-NEWSLINE can help you become part of your community's conversation!

2:30 - 4:00 PM—BLIND FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [925 4578 8239](#)

Come learn about issues facing federal employees and applicants. Share your experiences with and your solutions to federal workplace challenges.

Ronza Othman, Chair

3:00 - 4:00 PM—MANAGING THE FINANCIAL EFFECTS OF COVID-19

Zoom meeting ID: [937 8179 9990](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our personal, professional, and social lives. Join this session to learn how to regain control of your financial well-being and build financial resiliency to buffer yourself against future emergencies and economic shocks.

Mia Russell, Wells Fargo, and Katie Metz, National Disability Institute

3:00 - 4:00 PM—LIGHTHOUSE PRESENTS: TACTILE MAPS AND MORE!

Zoom meeting ID: [926 1848 7109](#)

LightHouse in San Francisco invites you to hear how our MAD Lab TMAPs can help you learn a city block or navigate a new neighborhood and how tactile intersection diagrams can enhance O&M instruction.

Find out how you can touch the news. Learn about our online Adaptations store.

Sheri Albers, Community Outreach Coordinator, San Francisco LightHouse

3:00 - 4:30 PM—AIRA ACCESS: WORK, SCHOOL, EVERYWHERE!

Zoom meeting ID: [974 1693 2013](#)

Want to know how to make your work or school an Aira Access location? Join us for strategies and case studies.

Jenine Stanley, Director, Customer Communications, Aira

3:00 - 5:00 PM—RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [981 9358 4017](#)

The National Federation of the Blind Blindness Initiatives' Research Advisory Council invites interested individuals to discuss current research, discuss publication in the *Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research (JBIR)* and share ideas for increasing the research and academic presence of the NFB.

Lou Ann Blake, Director of Research Programs, National Federation of the Blind

3:00 - 5:00 PM—WHAT'S NEW WITH AMAZON ACCESSIBILITY

Zoom meeting ID: [913 4928 5721](#)

Join us for demos and discussion of accessible Amazon products including Alexa and Smart Home, Fire TV at home and in your car, Fire tablets for school and work, audio description on Prime Video, books and shopping, and, of course, exciting Amazon prizes for lucky attendees.

Peter Korn, Director of Accessibility, Amazon

4:00 - 5:00 PM—SAFETY AND SUPPORT TRAINING: BOUNDARIES AND CONSENT

Zoom meeting ID: [664 561 4114](#)

This workshop will discuss ways in which we can build safe, stronger, and more connected communities by building an organizational culture of consent. Come join the Survivor Task Force and Consent Academy to become a consent advocate for our entire community.

Sponsored by the NFB Survivor Task Force.

4:00 - 5:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

4:00 - 5:30 PM—HARRIET TUBMAN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD TOUR

Zoom meeting ID: [961 2567 1553](#)

Virtually experience Harriet Tubman's world through exhibits that chronicle the life of this resourceful woman and the many others that helped her run the Underground Railroad. Most people underestimated her tenacity and strength.

4:30 - 6:00 PM—SSI AND SSDI 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Zoom meeting ID: [988 9355 4670](#)

Have you ever wanted to know how Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) work or how you

may benefit from these programs? Join me as we explore the ins and outs of all things benefits. Questions welcome!
Stephanie Flynt, NFB Government Affairs Specialist, National Federation of the Blind

5:00 - 7:00 PM—NOPBC FAMILY GAME TIME

Zoom meeting ID: [967 3752 7512](#)

Drop in to discuss, play, and learn how to make accessible games.
Carlton Cook Walker, President

5:00 - 8:00 PM—2021 JOB SEEKER SEMINAR

Zoom meeting ID: [991 2558 1630](#)

Our annual seminar is bigger and better this year, with presenters on a whole range of topics. New to the job market? Experienced person looking for better opportunities? Want to know what employers really want? We've got you covered!

Mary Ann Mendez, NFB Employment Committee Seminar Chair

5:30 - 7:30 PM—BUILDING AI WITH SUMAN KANUGANTI

Zoom meeting ID: [933 1285 4946](#)

Personal AI is building with the public and learning in public to promote radical truth to our customers. Join this discussion to learn more about how we are working with our community to build an AI product that is accessible and authentic to each member. Questions welcome!

Suman Kanuganti, CEO, Personal AI

6:00 - 7:30 PM—WEBMASTERS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [923 1042 4932](#)

We are excited to announce that the affiliate website redesign project is in full swing. We welcome anyone responsible for affiliate or division web content to join us for a discussion about this and other initiatives.
Corbb O'Connor, Chair

6:00 - 8:00 PM—DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION OPEN MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [929 4841 3820](#)

Attend our annual meeting to hear about our activities and to learn how you can become involved with our committee. Let's learn from each other to grow our understanding and to increase our impact around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Shawn Callaway and Colin Wong, Co-Chairs

6:00 - 9:00 PM—NFB LEGAL OFFICE HOURS

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns regarding employment, technology, education, voting, travel, COVID vaccinations, housing, parental rights, and more. Schedule your appointment by emailing vyingling@nfb.org.

6:30 - 8:00 PM—NABS STUDENT NETWORKING

Zoom meeting ID: [949 4020 2508](#)

We know we're not in person this year, but we still want to form lasting connections for all students at the 2021 NFB National Convention. This isn't your typical networking event. Come kick off your week NABS-style with high-energy and interactive activities.

Trisha Kulkarni, President

7:00 - 9:00 PM—LEGISLATIVE MEET UP

Zoom meeting ID: [990 7360 1724](#)

A recap of Washington Seminar, a rundown of priorities, and an opportunity for legislative directors and others interested in advocating for the rights of the nation's blind to exchange strategies to move our legislative priorities at the local, state, and federal levels.

Stephanie Flynt and Jeff Kaloc, NFB Government Affairs Specialists, National Federation of the Blind

7:00 - 10:00 PM—NOPBC PARENT OPEN HOUSE

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Drop in to speak with NOPBC board members and other convention veterans. Relax, chat, meet new families and teachers, and connect with old friends.

Carlton Cook Walker, President

7:30 - 8:30 PM—JUDAISM MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [977 0150 7592](#)

Join us to discuss the reopening of synagogues and how this influences us as blind attendees.

David Stayer, Chair, NFB in Judaism Group

8:00 - 10:00 PM—NATIVE AMERICAN EXPERIENCES

Zoom meeting ID: [940 3546 7033](#)

Hear from the voices of Native Americans in the Federation. Do you identify as a Native American or are part of a First Nation? Come find support and/or learn about this cultural group.

Justin Salisbury and Aaron Timm, Co-Facilitators

8:00 - 10:00 PM—BLIND PARENTS GROUP

Zoom meeting ID: [938 6214 7607](#)

There are many books on how to be the best parent, but not many on how to be the best blind parent. Meet the people writing the pages of the book on how to be a blind parent by simply living and not letting

blindness hold them back from raising families. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Lisamaria Martinez, Chair

8:00 - 10:00 PM—ONE VOICE: STRONGER TOGETHER

Enjoy a night of performance and support our work changing what it means to be blind, one stage at a time. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased online by visiting www.nfb.org/concert or by calling the Independence Market at 410-659-9314, extension 2216.

Hosted by the Performing Arts Division and the National Federation of the Blind.

9:00 - 10:30 PM—THE TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION COMMITTEE EXHIBITOR'S SHOWCASE

Zoom meeting ID: [951 1858 8529](https://us02zoom.us/j/95118588529)

All are invited to join the Technology Evaluation Committee's Exhibitor's Showcase to learn about low- to high-tech products from vendors. From hardware to software and more. You can hear the latest from everyone at this meeting. You do not have to be on the committee to attend.

Mark Jones, Chair

9:00 - 11:00 PM—CULTIVATING ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER IDENTITIES

Zoom meeting ID: [980 5864 6441](https://us02zoom.us/j/98058646441)

Connect with blind Asian members to discuss cultural practices and to share strategies for approaching vision loss. Provide your insight on delivering culturally relevant outreach, including producing materials, messaging techniques, and identifying needed resources.

Priscilla Yeung and Zainub Cementwala, Co-Facilitators

9:00 - 11:00 PM—BLIND AND MENA: A DIFFERENT KIND OF BROWN

Zoom meeting ID: [947 7445 8111](https://us02zoom.us/j/94774458111)

Members who are American Arab, North African, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and Sikh face unique challenges in post-9/11 America, especially around blindness and access to services. Join us to learn about identity, stereotypes, and challenges experienced by these communities.

Ronza Othman and Yasmin Reyazuddin, Co-Facilitators



WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

10:00 - 11:00 AM—JAWS POWER TIPS

Zoom meeting ID: [998 1309 2164](#)

Join us as we cover the most popular JAWS power tips—each finely tuned for optimal productivity, breaking down into step-by-step actions that come together and perform some of the most powerful tasks.

We'll also share free training resources at freedomscientific.com/Training.

Matt Ater, VP, Software Products, Vispero; Rachel Buchanan, Product Manager, Training, Vispero; and Elizabeth Whitaker, Technical Trainer, Vispero

10:00 - 11:30 AM—GET CONNECTED IN YOUR EMPLOYMENT SEARCH

Zoom meeting ID: [938 6932 2369](#)

Are you looking for employment? Do you want to enhance your employability? Do you want to learn about assistive technology? The Chicago Lighthouse has an educated and experienced team that can offer a variety of programs to prepare you for employment.

Martha Younger-White, Senior Vice President, Employment & Rehabilitation Services, Chicago Lighthouse

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM—INCLUSIVE LEARNING THROUGH INCLUSIVE DESIGN

Zoom meeting ID: [979 0944 5232](#)

Inclusive design is about recognizing the diverse needs of users and designing to meet those needs. At D2L we include people using diverse assistive technologies and having diverse access needs in our research and design process to ensure that everyone can use our learning platform.

Sam Chandrashekar, Accessibility Lead, D2L, and Carin Headrick, Accessibility Test Strategist, D2L

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM—UPWARD MOBILITY SEMINAR

Zoom meeting ID: [925 6111 1019](#)

Learning and growth are both keys to human advancement. Don't settle for a future (or a present) that's limited. This seminar will provide you with tools to help you live the life you want and have fun doing it.

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.

Dick Davis, Chair

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM—MUJERES OF THE FEDERATION

Zoom meeting ID: [943 5570 3405](#)

Come learn about cultural considerations regarding those who belong to this cultural group. Learn and be inspired by members and leaders. What steps can be taken to help Spanish speakers feel included into the Federation? How can we work on culturally appropriate outreach? Rosy Carranza and Kenia Flores, Co-Facilitators

12:00 - 1:00 PM—THE ACCESSIBILITY GAP

Zoom meeting ID: [946 4099 3291](#)

Over three hundred and fifty new websites are created each minute in the United States. The number of accessible websites is less than 2 percent. Come explore ways to decrease this widening internet accessibility gap.

Michael Hingson, Chief Vision Officer, AccessiBe

12:00 - 1:30 PM—TIPS FOR BUILDING A JOURNALISM CAREER

Zoom meeting ID: [919 4139 8845](#)

Come join the Blind Professional Journalists Group as we discuss how we work in an exciting, dynamic profession. Let's exchange ideas on technology and blindness skills to help us move forward.

Elizabeth Campbell, Chair

12:00 - 1:30 PM—BUILDING FINANCIAL RESILIENCE WITH ABLE

Zoom meeting ID: [985 2508 8541](#)

In this session, experts on ABLE, including ABLE account holders, will introduce you to ABLE accounts, discuss common misperceptions, and provide suggestions and resources for leveraging ABLE to improve your financial resiliency.

Bonnie Wallace, Wells Fargo, and Michael Morris, National Disability Institute

12:00 - 1:30 PM—NFB JERNIGAN INSTITUTE TOUR

Zoom meeting ID: [951 0732 8515](#)

This unique tour will be conducted by Mary Ellen Jernigan and Dr. Marc Maurer, who were involved before there was a Jernigan Institute. They worked with Dr. Jernigan and will share stories about the vision, development, and growth of the NFB National Center for the Blind.

12:00 - 1:45 PM—NOPBC BREAKOUTS

12:00 - 12:45 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session III

What Are JAWS, Zoomtext, and Fusion Anyway?

Zoom meeting ID: [984 6579 3370](#)

A New Generation of Braille Display: the Brailiant BI 20 and 40X

Zoom meeting ID: [953 5779 3909](#)

What Is Structured Discovery?

Zoom meeting ID: [944 3380 1222](#)

“Excuse Me, Blind Person”—Questions and Answers

Zoom meeting ID: [967 6871 9867](#)

Paving the Way for Community Activities from Infancy to High School

Zoom meeting ID: [992 5256 0598](#)

1:00 - 1:45 PM—NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session IV

Be My Eyes, Aira, Seeing AI, and More

Zoom meeting ID: [940 9836 8715](#)

The QBraille XL from HIMS and What Sets It Apart

Zoom meeting ID: [927 0824 9609](#)

Learning Shades: Helping Parents Learn and Teach Nonvisual Skills

Zoom meeting ID: [916 7876 3307](#)

Tackling Mixed Messages Blind Kids Receive from a Sighted World

Zoom meeting ID: [929 7962 5847](#)

How Braille Can Benefit All Children Who Have Low Vision

Zoom meeting ID: [992 3453 6820](#)

12:00 - 2:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

12:30 - 1:30 PM—SAFETY AND SUPPORT TRAINING: INCLUSION AND SAFETY

Zoom meeting ID: [664 561 4114](#)

Creating a culture that is safe and inclusive for all blind people takes intentionality and commitment from each person at every level of an organization. Learn strategies and approaches for navigating difficult conversations with empathy, openness, compassion, and trauma-informed support.

Sponsored by the NFB Survivor Task Force.

12:30 - 1:30 PM—ACCESSIBLE PRESCRIPTION LABEL LEGISLATION

Zoom meeting ID: [995 9072 7916](#)

Find out about the current state of accessible prescription labeling legislation, what states have passed and have pending legislation, and how you can get legislation passed in your state.

Sharla Glass, Public Policy and Community Outreach Liaison, Envision America

12:30 - 1:30 PM—LEADER DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Zoom meeting ID: [954 7103 5017](#)

We're more than just dogs! Join us as we discuss the free programs and services that Leader Dog has to offer including guide dog training, orientation and mobility, a summer experience camp for teens, and our new virtual learning opportunities.

Leslie Hoskins, Outreach Services and Community Engagement Manager, Leader Dogs for the Blind

12:30 - 1:30 PM—HUMANWARE'S LOW VISION AND VR TREK SHOWCASE

Zoom meeting ID: [930 3557 1926](#)

Explore HumanWare's low-vision portfolio starting with the Reveal 16 and the Explore magnifiers. Be excited with a sneak preview of its soon-to-be-released new family member. Finally, learn how to easily manage maps online and explore anywhere with the Victor Reader Trek.

Eric Beauchamp, Director of Product Management, HumanWare; Roger Steinberg, Low Vision Product Manager, HumanWare; and Peter Tucic, Brand Ambassador of Blindness Products, HumanWare

12:30 - 1:30 PM—AIRA ROADMAP: WHAT'S NEW AND WHAT'S COMING

Zoom meeting ID: [979 3252 5705](#)

Come hear from Aira's Product Manager and UX designer about what has been happening behind the scenes at Aira and find out what you can expect in the next twelve months. You will also get to meet our engineering team and ask any questions you may have about our product.

Ryan Bishop, Product Manager, Aira

2:00 - 4:30 PM—NFB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (Open to All)

Zoom meeting ID: [945 1453 3422](#)

5:00 PM—RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Zoom meeting ID: [945 1453 3422](#)

Sharon Maneki, Chair

5:00 - 6:00 PM—CHROME AND CHROME OS ACCESSIBILITY UPDATES

Zoom meeting ID: [993 4503 0189](#)

Get the latest on Chromebook accessibility, including new ChromeVox tutorials. Hear what's new with Chrome browser accessibility on all platforms, including improved Live Caption and learn more about automatic image descriptions which is now on Chrome on Android. Akihiro Ota, Cynthia Shelley, and Kara Booker, Google

5:00 - 6:30 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

5:00 - 7:00 PM—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Zoom meeting ID: [917 6999 9720](#)

Technology is omnipresent in our lives. While it is invaluable in education and employment, the blind are still excluded from many products. Hear about new advances and discuss how to influence developers to include accessibility in their offerings.

Brian Buhrow, Chair

5:00 - 7:00 PM—FUTURE OF VOTING

Zoom meeting ID: [925 1467 5511](#)

Join us for three panel discussions focused on mobile voting:

Increasing Voting Accessibility through Mobile Voting moderated by Bradley Tusk, CEO, Tusk Philanthropies

The Fight to Expand Access to Mobile Voting for Voters with Disabilities moderated by Jocelyn Bucaro, Director, Mobile Voting Project

Case Study - Piloting Mobile Voting for Voters with Disabilities in Utah County moderated by Jocelyn Bucaro, Director, Mobile Voting Project

5:00 - 7:00 PM—SPECTRUM ACCESSIBILITY Q&A

Zoom meeting ID: [954 8266 2286](#)

Please join Petr Kucheryavyy from Spectrum's Accessibility Center of Excellence for an open house Q&A session. You can come with specific accessibility questions or simply stop by to ask what the current accessibility features and offerings are at Spectrum.

Petr Kucheryavyy, Spectrum

6:00 - 7:00 PM—INDEPENDENCE SCIENCE: SCIENCE FOR THE SENSES

Zoom meeting ID: [979 2324 2879](#)

Come learn about Independence Science's new product offerings and experience some science experiments you can do from the comfort of your own home or in class.

Michael Hingson, Lead Spokesperson, Independence Science, and Ashley Neybert, Lead Curriculum Design Specialist, Independence Science

6:00 - 8:00 PM—CULTIVATING THE EXPERIENCES OF REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS

Zoom meeting ID: [946 1747 8857](#)

Learn about the lives of refugee and immigrants. This is an open forum for those to learn more about personal experiences and finding support

from other members.

Abdi Munin, Yasmin Reyazuddin, and Amir Abdolrahimi, Moderators

6:00 - 9:00 PM—NFB LEGAL OFFICE HOURS

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns regarding employment, technology, education, voting, travel, COVID vaccinations, housing, parental rights, and more. Schedule your appointment by emailing vyingling@nfb.org.

7:00 - 8:00 PM—FAMILY FEUD: BLIND, INC. STYLE

Zoom meeting ID: [988 8892 8510](#)

Survey says this will be a good time! Learn about what makes BLIND, Inc. a good answer to getting blindness skills training as our two groups go head-to-head in this fast-paced introduction to our training center.

Jennifer Kennedy, Executive Director

7:00 - 8:00 PM—IS A GUIDE DOG RIGHT FOR ME?

Zoom meeting ID: [978 2593 6501](#)

Have you ever wondered if a guide dog was the right choice for your mobility? Join Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind staff for an introductory presentation on what a guide dog can do, the characteristics of a successful guide dog handler, and our programs. Lauren Berglund, Consumer Relations Coordinator, Guide Dog Foundation

7:00 - 8:00 PM—GET HIRED - TALENT NETWORK

Zoom meeting ID: [956 8416 2853](#)

The Workforce Innovation Center talent network allows interested job seekers who are blind or low vision to gain access to the latest job opportunities, events, training sessions, and other career-related information.

Mika Pyyhkala, Director of Digital Accessibility, Envision

7:00 - 8:00 PM—WHAT'S NEW WITH THE COLLEGE SUCCESS PROGRAM?

Zoom meeting ID: [976 3815 9477](#)

Join program director, Mary Alexander, program staff and mentors, Rachel Grider and Dezman Jackson, to get an overview of the impact of the CSP and to find out what's been happening over the past year. Mary Alexander, National Director, Initiatives for the Blind, Learning Ally

7:00 - 8:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

7:00 - 9:00 PM—NFB LGBTQIA+ GROUP

Zoom meeting ID: [959 0828 9838](#)

Please join us for discussions on intersectionality, coming out, presentation in the workplace, how to be an ally, and more. All are welcome.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

7:00 - 9:00 PM—COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Zoom meeting ID: [933 4584 3557](#)

Join together with chapter, affiliate, and division leaders to learn best practices in communications. We'll explore the tools available to us through our national office and exchange ideas. Learn to effectively use communication to build the Federation.

Liz Wisecarver, Chair

8:00 - 11:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND STUDENTS (NABS) ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [940 3595 6213](#)

We invite all students, avid learners, and allies to join us for our annual national student division business meeting! Register below to reflect on this crazy, unique year of virtual learning and look forward to the months ahead.

<https://forms.gle/D9jKCUTPt6HfPKUK8>.

Trisha Kulkarni, President

8:30 - 10:30 PM—STATE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION OPEN FORUM

Zoom meeting ID: [956 8868 5218](#)

Are you interested in hearing about or sharing about affiliate committees for diversity, equity, and inclusion? Come to this open forum where affiliates that currently have committees will discuss them.

Shawn Callaway, Facilitator



THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

10:00 - 11:00 AM—APH: OUR HIGH-TECH BRAILLE JOURNEY
CONTINUES

Zoom meeting ID: [954 6551 5159](#)

APH made several significant announcements about its Braille product portfolio in early 2020. What followed was an unforgettable year of Braille innovation in a year best forgotten. Join us and learn about our innovative journey, the year that was, and the year that is to come. Greg Stilson, Director, Global Innovation, American Printing House

10:00 - 11:00 AM—THE ART OF NSITE

Zoom meeting ID: [933 7362 7283](#)

This session will provide insight into how discovery, creativity, innovation, and entrepreneurship become the catalysts to strengthening workforce opportunities for people who are blind or visually impaired; and how mutualistic growth and replication can reduce unemployment.

Jonathan Lucas, NSITE

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM—NFB-NEWSLINE® SUPERHIGHWAY TO
INFORMATION

Zoom meeting ID: [987 8331 3084](#)

Learn about a tool for information success, NFB-NEWSLINE Mobile 3.0. We will review new features, such as new article presentation, my queue, article sharing on social media, and KNFB Reader Basic. Share your ideas for new features and content with NFB-NEWSLINE staff.

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM—COMMITTEE FOR ADVANCEMENT AND
PROMOTION OF BRAILLE

Zoom meeting ID: [970 4340 1206](#)

The committee will discuss developments in the teaching and delivery of Braille, research priorities, Braille-related policy, strategies for bringing improvements where needed, and resources and activities across our organization. All are welcome!

Jennifer Dunnam, Chair

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM—EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [955 7953 2854](#)

The annual meeting of the NFB Employment Committee will address current initiatives, NFB member and job seeker needs, and future plans. Everyone is welcome!
Dick Davis, Chair

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM—APH'S QUEST FOR THE HOLY BRAILLE

Zoom meeting ID: [917 2372 8256](#)

Join APH on the Quest for the Dynamic Tactile Device. This session will investigate the history behind the initiative, our goals, and how you can get involved. We will also explore the global efforts to update electronic book standards to support this revolutionary tool.

Greg Stilson, Director, Global Innovation, American Printing House

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM—DIGITAL ACCESSIBILITY INSIGHTS FROM THE OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS (OCR)

Zoom meeting ID: [999 8147 7825](#)

Hear directly from top enforcement officials, including the acting assistant secretary for the Office of Civil Rights, on OCR's digital accessibility work. Learn how OCR resolves hundreds of these investigations annually and how entities can comply with Section 504 and ADA Title II.

Suzanne Goldberg, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights; Mary Lou Mobley and Judith Risch, OCR National Digital Access Team

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM—ACCESSIBLE PHARMACY & BE MY EYES: MED MANAGEMENT

Zoom meeting ID: [930 3392 0184](#)

Accessible Pharmacy Services for the Blind and Be My Eyes will discuss how they collaborate to support blind and low-vision patients with medication and diabetes management.

Andy Burstein, CEO, Accessible Pharmacy; and Will Butler, VP of Community, Be My Eyes

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM—TEXT2VOTE

Zoom meeting ID: [975 3258 2779](#)

Everyone should be able to vote without any limitations, period! Our cutting-edge, patented solution will enable blind and low-vision voters to vote the same as everyone else. Please join us to hear more about the future of elections, right on your smartphone.

Lee Durham, CEO, Global Mobile

12:00 - 1:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

1:00 - 3:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS

Zoom meeting ID: [956 0170 5562](#)

Topics will include mentoring, transitioning from virtual to in-person training and services, the new employment landscape, professional ethics, and planning our future goals in our division. We can decide what rehabilitation feels like together.

Amy Porterfield, President

1:00 - 3:00 PM—COMMUNITY SERVICE DIVISION: COLORS OF HOPE

Zoom meeting ID: [968 4934 6071](#)

We have been hopeful and expecting brighter days! Can you sense the vibrant colors of hope appearing everywhere? Life is like a rainbow; you need both rain and sun to make its colors appear. Come be inspired as we triumphantly celebrate the bright and popping colors of hope.

Jeanetta Price, President

1:00 - 3:00 PM—AMATEUR RADIO DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [974 7551 1274](#)

Amateur radio can be a fun and rewarding hobby. Come find out how you can get on the air and how you can use the hobby to serve.

Karen Anderson (ke0cdq), President

1:00 - 3:30 PM—WRITERS DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [943 1370 5770](#)

Come join the Writers Division, learn of its future, and be a part of the new leadership team for next term. Enjoy readings by our contest winners and other division members.

Shelley Alongi, President

1:00 - 4:00 PM—NFB DEAFBLIND DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [955 0105 0902](#)

Get updates on national issues affecting the deafblind community, technology, and the division's business matters and elections.

Alice Eaddy, President

1:00 PM—Registration (\$5)

1:00 - 4:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND MERCHANTS

Zoom meeting ID: [950 3842 2172](#)

"Get it Done in 21" Three ways to look at business: inside the box, outside the box, or the way we look at business—no box at all.

Nicky Gacos, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—SPORTS AND RECREATION DIVISION MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [969 3376 8719](#)

Join us for a high-energy meeting where we will discuss the business of the division and provide information, tools, and motivation to help you live the life you want through health and wellness.

Jessica Beecham, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—NFB IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Zoom meeting ID: [930 1809 9496](#)

Enhancing nonvisual access to information technology and improving the ability of blind information and computer technology professionals to compete in today's world.

Brian Buhrow, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—NFB IN COMMUNITIES OF FAITH

Zoom meeting ID: [975 0579 8225](#)

Publishers of faith-based literature will provide an update regarding the work of their respective organizations. Other speakers will describe how their faith has helped them to overcome challenges. We will have a business meeting and hold elections for division officers.

Tom Anderson, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—NFB KRAFTERS DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [983 8494 6170](#)

Welcome to our thirteenth year of the Krafters Division! Little bit of business and more crafts. Register for door prizes at krafters.division.president@gmail.com. Craft vendors can be found at www.krafterskorner.org.

Tammy Freitag, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND LAWYERS DIVISION MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [935 8618 0919](#)

Examine legal issues arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic for the blind; address ongoing struggles to gain equal access to websites, employment, legal texts, and exams; share practice tips and technology tools for blind lawyers. Please go to www.blindlawyers.net to register for the meeting.

Scott LaBarre, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—NOPBC MEETING: JOURNEY TO EMPOWERMENT

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Keynote address by the 2021 Distinguished Educator of Blind Children; mix and mingle with vendors, blind mentors, and other parents; learn about cutting-edge products and programs for our youth; Parent Power and kids' panels; business meeting; elections; and much more!

Carlton Cook Walker, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—PERFORMING ARTS DIVISION & AUDIO DESCRIBING

Zoom meeting ID: [973 9613 2138](#)

Come prepared to network with other performers! Join us for our annual business meeting followed by a panel all about audio description, discussing the field as both a blind consumer and describer.

Katelyn MacIntyre, President

1:00 - 5:00 PM—PUBLIC EMPLOYEES DIVISION

Zoom meeting ID: [938 4494 4218](#)

This is our annual meeting of persons employed by federal, state, or municipal governments as well as employees of public utilities. We discuss issues affecting blind public servants.

Gary Van Dorn, President

1:30 - 4:00 PM—NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF BLIND EDUCATORS

Zoom meeting ID: [921 3283 9913](#)

Blind teachers discuss techniques they use in their classrooms. Participants meet in groups specific to grade level and content area to create a network of colleagues and mentors. If you teach or are considering a career in teaching, please join us.

Cayte Mendez, President

2:00 - 4:00 PM—SENIORS DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [977 7072 7700](#)

We will elect officers and board members. Hear about our virtual retreats. We'll discuss Accessible Pharmacy and accessible phones and a guest speaker shares his thoughts on agism. Must be dues-paying member to be eligible to win door prizes.

President, Ruth Sager

2:00 - 4:00 PM—HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [990 1320 3657](#)

We are a diverse group of blind professionals and students who have a passion for working with people. Please join us for our annual meeting which includes our business meeting and guest speakers. To register, email chapman.candicel@gmail.com.

Candice Chapman, President

2:00 - 5:00 PM—ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TRAINERS DIVISION

Zoom meeting ID: [963 8632 6253](#)

Current and aspiring tech trainers: join us for professional development, networking, and fellowship. We'll explore what it takes to become a great trainer, how to help our students build sustainable digital literacy skills, and strategies for remote training.

Chancey Fleet, President

2:00 - 5:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLIND VETERANS MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [967 3572 1028](#)

All veterans are invited. We will conduct our annual business meeting after a short networking period. We will be holding elections this year. Remember your dues must be paid in full to vote.

2:00 PM—Networking

3:00 PM—Business Meeting

Vernon Humphrey, President

3:00 - 5:00 PM—NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GUIDE DOG USERS

Zoom meeting ID: [997 9772 9606](#)

Come learn how the current Department of Transportation regulations have impacted air travel for guide dog users. Get current updates from our legal counsel about matters pertaining to guide dog users. Find out what NAGDU has been up to over the past year and elect our leaders!

Raul Gallegos, President

3:00 - 5:00 PM—PROFESSIONALS IN BLINDNESS EDUCATION

Zoom meeting ID: [985 2633 3208](#)

All professionals serving students from birth through age twenty-one are welcome and encouraged to join our informative and interactive meeting. Come network and collaborate, sharing and learning with colleagues and future educators.

Eric Guillory, President

3:00 - 5:00 PM—DIABETES ACTION NETWORK

Zoom meeting ID: [952 2900 6407](#)

Come learn about diabetes from a doctor, interact with a panel of insulin pump users, learn the ins and outs of accessibility, and hear from blind people who live daily with type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Debbie Wunder, President

3:00 - 5:00 PM—SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DIVISION

Zoom meeting ID: [968 1451 1786](#)

Learn how the blind operate in a microbiology lab, how to operate laboratory equipment remotely, about the project to survey the blindness accessibility of higher-level education, how the blind work in an electronics laboratory, and methods of teaching STEM to the blind.

John Miller, President

5:00 - 6:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

5:15 - 6:15 PM—LOUISIANA CENTER FOR THE BLIND: CHANGING LIVES AND EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Zoom meeting ID: [939 4976 7662](#)

We look forward to gathering virtually with our LCB alumni and those interested in learning about our life-changing programs. Join us as we celebrate and share. Learn how LCB training will help you live the life you want!

Pam Allen, Executive Director

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Zoom meeting ID: [973 7933 1900](#)

7:00 PM CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

7:05 PM WELCOMING CEREMONIES: UNIFYING OUR MOVEMENT FROM WHERE THE FEDERATION FLAG FLIES HIGHEST TO EVERY CORNER OF OUR NATION

2021 National Convention Host Committee:

Ronza Othman, President, National Federation of the Blind of Maryland; Baltimore, Maryland

Juhi Narula, Secretary, Maryland Association of Blind Students; Baltimore, Maryland

7:35 PM CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM: VETERANS RECOGNIZED
Vernon Humphrey, President, National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind;
Mauk, Georgia

7:55 PM ROLL CALL OF STATES AND APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

9:25 PM LEADERSHIP AND COMMON BONDS: TRANSFORMATIVE CHANGE AND CIVIL RIGHTS GROUNDING FROM MARYLAND'S SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
The Honorable Kweisi Mfume, United States House of Representatives, Seventh Congressional District; Maryland

9:45 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

9:50 PM ADJOURN

10:00 - 11:00 PM—SAFETY AND SUPPORT TRAINING: ALLYSHIP AND BYSTANDER INTERVENTION

Zoom meeting ID: [664 561 4114](#)

Please join us to learn about the important role of an ally or actively engaged bystander, learn tools and strategies to be the most effective ally/actively engaged bystander possible, and become empowered to contribute to creating a culture of safety and inclusion for all.
Sponsored by the NFB Survivor Task Force.

10:00 - 11:00 PM—FRIENDS OF RECOVERY MEETING

Zoom meeting ID: [913 2678 0107](#)

All convention attendees interested in getting or remaining clean and sober are welcome to our confidential meeting. For more information, call 828-505-0338.

Gary R., Coordinator



FRIDAY, JULY 9, 2021

9:00 - 10:00 AM—WINDOWS & IOS WITH THE FOCUS BRAILLE DISPLAY

Zoom meeting ID: [914 6559 4035](#)

Windows and iOS Tablets and iPhones are more powerful than ever, supporting productivity and entertainment, on-the-go or in the office, wherever you wish to take it. Focus Blue Braille Displays enhance productivity, increase accessibility and privacy without reducing portability.

Jeff Bazer, Sales Director, Vispero, and Ron Miller, Blindness Technology Product Specialist, Vispero

9:30 - 10:30 AM—NOPBC IEP LIVE SESSIONS

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Get an overview of the IEP process. Discuss blindness-specific IEP issues.

Carlton Cook Walker, President

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM—AFFILIATE CAUCUSES

Join your state affiliate caucus to meet or renew ties with your Federation friends and family, to review this year's resolutions, and to learn more about the work of the Federation. Visit your affiliate's website or contact your delegate, typically your state president, for exact times and connection details.

12:00 - 1:00 PM—NOPBC YOUTH TRACK SESSIONS

Registration required. Email president@nopbc.org for details.

GENERAL SESSION II

Zoom meeting ID: [987 4172 7764](#)

2:00 PM CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

2:05 PM PRESIDENTIAL REPORT

Mark Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind;
Baltimore, Maryland

3:05 PM TRANSFORMATIVE INNOVATIONS IN TRANSPORTATION: A COMMITMENT TO A FUTURE INFORMED BY THE BLIND

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary, United States
Department of Transportation; Washington, District of
Columbia

3:30 PM STRONGER TOGETHER: HOW THE ORGANIZED BLIND MOVEMENT BENEFITS FROM THE GLOBAL ADVANCEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CRPD
Gerard Quinn, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; Ireland

3:50 PM TRANSFORMING ADVOCACY INTO VOTES: THE IMPACT OF THE FEDERATION ON VOTING EQUALITY
Eve Hill, Partner, Brown, Goldstein, and Levy; Baltimore, Maryland

4:05 PM TRANSFORMATIVE LEADERSHIP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BLIND: COLORADO RAISES EXPECTATIONS FOR ALL BLIND AMERICANS
Jena Griswold, Colorado Secretary of State; Louisville, Colorado

4:20 PM A STRONGER FUTURE TOGETHER THROUGH A COMMITMENT TO FULL PARTICIPATION: BUILDING THE TOOLS TO EMPOWER ALL TO VOTE
Bradley Tusk, CEO and Co-Founder, Tusk Philanthropies; New York, New York

4:35 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

5:00 PM ADJOURN

5:15 - 6:15 PM—SAFETY AND SUPPORT TRAINING: EMPOWERMENT
Zoom meeting ID: [664 561 4114](#)

While we recognize survivors of all types experience varying levels of trauma and pain, the healing journey is similarly unique and individualized. Join us for a deep conversation on empowerment techniques, owning your body, and taking control of your path toward healing.

Sponsored by the NFB Survivor Task Force.

GENERAL SESSION III
Zoom meeting ID: [987 4172 7764](#)

6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER

- 6:35 PM** FEDERATION SAFE: HEALING AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF PAIN INTO PROGRESS
The 2021 National Federation of the Blind Survivor Task Force
- 6:55 PM** LEARNING FROM THE PAST AND BUILDING FOR OUR FUTURE: A REPORT FROM THE FEDERATION'S 2021 SPECIAL COMMITTEE
- 7:15 PM** THE STRENGTH OF A CHAMPION: TRANSFORMING FEDERATION SPIRIT INTO PERSONAL PROGRESS
Randi Strunk, Member, National Federation of the Blind of Minnesota and National Federation of the Blind Sports and Recreation Division
- 7:35 PM** STRONGER TOGETHER: RAISING CULTURAL COMPETENCY, ENGAGING DIVERSE BLIND MENTORS, AND ADVANCING THE EDUCATION OF BLIND YOUTH
Monique Coleman, TVI, President of VISTAS Education Partners and Founder of the National Homework Hotline, Highland Park, New Jersey
- 7:50 PM** TRANSFORMING AND ACCELERATING ACCESSIBILITY: THE NEED FOR THE ORGANIZED BLIND MOVEMENT TO INNOVATE THROUGH INCLUSIVE DESIGN
Sina Bahram, Founder and President, Prime Access Consulting; Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
- 8:05 PM** INNOVATING MAPPING TECHNOLOGY: A MISSION BUILT ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE BLIND
Jose Gaztambide, CEO, GoodMaps; Louisville, Kentucky
- 8:20 PM** STRONGER TOGETHER: TRANSFORMING ACCESSIBILITY FROM INKLING TO INNOVATION IN THE TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY
Moderator: Chancey Fleet, President, Assistive Technology Trainers Division of the NFB; Brooklyn, New York
Panel:
Eve Andersson, Senior Director of Accessibility, Google; Mountain View, California
Jenny Lay-Flurrie, Chief Accessibility Officer, Microsoft; Redmond, Washington
Sarah Herrlinger, Senior Director, Global Accessibility Policy

& Initiatives, Apple; Cupertino California
Peter Korn, Director, Accessibility at Amazon Lab126,
Amazon; Seattle, Washington

9:05 PM TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE THROUGH PERSONAL AI: HOW
THE BLIND CAN CONTRIBUTE AUTHENTICITY TO ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE

Suman Kanuganti, CEO, Personal AI; San Diego, California

9:15 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

9:30 PM ADJOURN



SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021

10:30 - 11:30 AM—NOPBC IEP LIVE SESSIONS

Zoom meeting ID: [414 052 0261](#)

Discuss best practices for accommodations, assessments, and service time. Learn helpful negotiation strategies for the IEP meeting.

Carlton Cook Walker, President

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM—COLORADO CENTER FOR THE BLIND OPEN HOUSE

Zoom meeting ID: [926 9789 2966](#)

Have you wondered if you should consider blindness training? Are you ready to be challenged and take a risk? What is a day of training like? Get the inside scoop from our vibrant Center staff and dedicated students. Ask questions and learn some things that may change your life.

Julie Deden, Executive Director

GENERAL SESSION IV

Zoom meeting ID: [952 9797 7720](#)

1:00 PM CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION

1:05 PM FINANCIAL REPORT

1:35 PM ELECTIONS

2:10 PM RESOLUTIONS

4:00 PM ADJOURN

GENERAL SESSION V

Zoom meeting ID: [952 9797 7720](#)

4:30 PM CALL TO ORDER

4:35 PM TRANSFORMING AND UNIFYING OUR FUTURE: THE JERNIGAN INSTITUTE ADVANCES OUR MISSION THROUGH A WORLDWIDE PANDEMIC

Anil Lewis, Executive Director for Blindness Initiatives,
National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

4:55 PM TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION IN THE HALLS OF POWER:
ADVOCACY AND POLICY COORDINATED THROUGH ALL
LEVELS OF THE MOVEMENT

John Paré, Jr., Executive Director for Advocacy and Policy,
National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

5:20 PM LEADING ALONE AND MARCHING TOGETHER:
TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION FROM THE UNITED STATES
SENATE

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth, United States Senate,
Illinois

5:40 PM STRENGTH THROUGH A DIVERSE ORGANIZED BLIND
MOVEMENT: THE INTERSECTION OF CHARACTERISTICS AND
THE COMMON BOND OF RAISING EXPECTATIONS

Moderator: Colin Wong, Co-Chair, National Federation of the
Blind Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Phoenix,
Arizona

Panelists:

Tasnim Alshuli, Chairperson, NFB Blind Muslim Group;
Tucson, Arizona

Doula Jarboe, President, Colorado Association of the Blind,
Hard of Hearing, and Deafblind; Denver, Colorado

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chairperson, NFB LGBT Group;
Norman, Oklahoma

Priscilla Yeung, Manager of Senior Programs, Society for the
Blind; Sacramento, California

6:20 PM REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

6:30 PM ADJOURN

BANQUET

Zoom meeting ID: [952 9797 7720](#)

7:30 PM INVOCATION

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Pam Allen

INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

BANQUET ADDRESS: Mark Riccobono
THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL DR. JACOB BOLOTIN AWARDS
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

CONVENTION NOTES:

Note 1: All convention sessions will be conducted using the Zoom conferencing platform. Convention participants are strongly encouraged to download the Zoom mobile app for best audio quality. Those that already have the mobile app are encouraged to upgrade to the latest version. However, attendees may also use the web portal or dial in to meetings using a cell phone or a landline. If dialing in to a session, you can dial 301-715-8592 and enter the meeting ID to connect. Additional Zoom dial-in numbers can be found at <https://www.nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/zoom-information>. On this webpage you will also find helpful user guides and lists of shortcut keys.

Note 2: The convention agenda and exhibit hall can be accessed via the CrowdCompass platform beginning June 25. Mobile apps are available for both the iOS and Android platforms (<https://crowd.cc/s/40gtm>). A web portal is also available (<https://crowd.cc/nfb21>). In addition to providing convention access to the agenda, CrowdCompass allows users to join sessions with the click of a button, customize a personal agenda, explore the online exhibit hall, and chat with other CrowdCompass convention goers.

Note 3: Voting for national elections and resolutions will be conducted via SMS (text messaging) and phone. To be eligible to vote, attendees must be current Federation members and have registered for convention by May 31. The phone number for voting is 667-206-6677. You may choose to program this number into your phone. The number and voting instructions will be sent via email to qualified voters in addition to being posted to the convention information page.

Note 4: As always, guide dog relief areas are an important component of convention. This year, they can be found in the same locations as were used yesterday.

Note 5: All requests for announcements by President Riccobono during General Sessions must be submitted by email to bbraun@nfb.org.

Note 6: Divisions, Committees, and Groups: The Federation carries on its business through the affiliated divisions, committees, and groups listed below:

DIVISIONS:

Divisions of the National Federation of the Blind are organized around a specialized interest area usually related to employment or a major stage in life (e.g., parents or students). Divisions serve as a formal vehicle for building the organization at the national level.

Amateur Radio: *Karen Anderson, President*
Assistive Technology Trainers: *Chancey Fleet, President*
Communities of Faith: *Tom Anderson, President*
Computer Science: *Brian Buhrow, President*
Community Service: *Jeanetta Price, President*
DeafBlind: *Alice Eaddy, President*
Diabetes Action Network: *Debbie Wunder, President*
Human Services: *Candice Chapman, President*
Educators: *Cayte Mendez, President*
Guide Dog Users: *Raul Gallegos, President*
Krafters: *Tammy Freitag, President*
Lawyers: *Scott LaBarre, President*
Merchants: *Nicky Gacos, President*
Parents of Blind Children: *Carlton Anne Cook Walker, President*
Performing Arts: *Katelyn MacIntyre, President*
Professionals in Blindness Education: *Eric Guillory, President*
Public Employees: *Gary Van Dorn, President*
Rehabilitation Professionals: *Amy Porterfield, President*
Science and Engineering: *John Miller, President*
Seniors: *Ruth Sager, President*
Sports and Recreation: *Jessica Beecham, President*
Students: *Trisha Kulkarni, President*
Veterans: *Vernon Humphrey, President*
Writers: *Shelley Alongi, President*

COMMITTEES:

Committees of the National Federation of the Blind are appointed by the President, with the exception of the nominating committee, and serve to advise the organization's leadership on important matters and to carry out projects to build the organization at all levels.

Advancement and Promotion of Braille: *Jennifer Dunnam, Chair*
Ambassadors: *Dan Burke, Chair*
Automobile and Pedestrian Safety: *Maurice Peret, Chair*
Autonomous Vehicles and Innovations in Transportation:
Blind Educator of the Year Award: *Edward Bell, Chair*

Blind Federal Employment: *Ronza Othman, Chair*
Communications: *Liz Wisecarver, Chair*
Distinguished Educator of Blind Children Award: *Carla McQuillan, Chair*
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: *Shawn Callaway and Colin Wong, Co-Chairs*
Employment: *Dick Davis, Chair*
Evaluation of Technology: *Mark Jones, Chair*
Jacobus tenBroek Award: *Marc Maurer, Chair*
Jacobus tenBroek Memorial Fund: *Tracy Soforenko, Chair*
Kenneth Jernigan Fund: *Allen Harris, Chair*
Membership: *Kathryn Webster and Tarik Williams, Co-Chairs*
PAC Plan: *Scott LaBarre, Chair*
Research and Development: *Brian Buhrow, Chair*
Resolutions: *Sharon Maneki, Chair*
Scholarship: *Cayte Mendez, Chair*
Shares Unlimited in NFB (SUN): *Sandy Halverson, Chair*
Spanish Translation: *Daniel Martinez, Chair*
White Cane and Affiliate Finance: *Everette Bacon, Chair*

GROUPS:

Groups of the National Federation of the Blind serve as a resource to members around specific topic areas. Groups are coordinated by a chairperson appointed by the President and are intended to connect members across the country to strengthen the resource network of the organization.

Blind Fraternal Greek and Masonic: *Shawn Callaway, Chair*
Blind Muslims: *Tasnim Ashuli, Chair*
Blind Parents: *Lisamaria Martinez, Chair*
Blind Professional Journalists: *Elizabeth Campbell, Chair*
NFB in Judaism: *David Stayer, Chair*
NFB LGBTQIA+: *Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair*
NFB Lions: *Milton Ota, Chair*
NFB Webmasters: *Corbb O'Connor, Chair*

**The National Federation of the Blind
acknowledges with gratitude our convention
sponsors listed below. Their messages follow.**

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Newsela
Spectrum
Tusk Philanthropies
VitalSource Technologies
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